

TUESDAY, JULY 7, 2026

ARCADIA | ATLANTA | CICERO | SHERIDAN | TIPTON
 CARMEL | FISHERS | NOBLESVILLE | WESTFIELD



TODAY'S WEATHER

Today: Partly sunny.
 Tonight: Partly cloudy.



HIGH: 85 LOW: 67



250 years & still going strong



Reporter photo



Reporter photo by Aida Karim



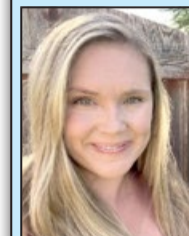
Photo provided by City of Noblesville

First it was too hot. Then it was too wet. Then Goldilocks figured it all out for us and we got to celebrate the 250th Independence Day with fireworks and drones and whatever lights in the sky you prefer. In Fishers the fireworks were on Sunday, but Carmel, Cicero, Noblesville, Sheridan, and Westfield all lit up the night on July 4, just later than originally scheduled in some cases. The daytime parades, on the other hand ... oh, those parades were sunlit and packed with patriotic people. See more photos on Pages 4 through 8.

Andy's mom

Time has a way of sometimes taking forever, and other times it's almost cruel how quickly it passes. I think it's normal to mark points in our lives, memories, and moments we wish would last longer to various things like songs, TV shows, historical moments, and movies.

COLUMNIST



MEGAN RATHZ
When Nature Speaks

Personally, it feels like the *Toy Story* franchise grew up with me. The first movie came out when I was seven years old. I am now 38 years old with a five- and seven-year-old of my own.

I saw something the other day that said, "Somewhere along the way, the story changed. I used to be Andy and now I'm Andy's mom." I went from the kid myself with a little sister who dressed up as Jessie in a red hat with a Bullseye stuffed animal to a mom who was bribing my own kid with a Buzz Lightyear and Woody toy if he could get himself potty trained.

I don't know where the last 31 years of life went, but I think part of what makes these movies special to me is the continuity of the beloved characters and the familiarity of their voices, personalities, and stories. There's something comforting about seeing your own children laugh at the same voices and jokes that made me laugh as a kid. No matter how many times I've seen the movies, I still laugh and can hear Woody's voice saying, "If you don't have a moving buddy, get one!"

So much in life is different. I remember being the kid in Disney World with my parents. I remember walking down Main Street and wishing it lasted a little bit longer. I remember sitting on the ride in Magic Kingdom and trying to defeat the evil Emperor Zurg. I remember the simplicity of the time period that these stories were in my life and my family at the time.

Like everyone else, a great deal of my life is different than it was in 1995, but there's something about hearing the voices of Buzz and Woody and knowing that there's another adventure in store for the gang that gives me comfort.

See *Andy's Mom* . . . Page 2

Four Democrats file to run for county-wide offices

Submitted by Hamilton County Democratic Party

The Hamilton County Democratic Party announced last Thursday, July 2, that four new candidates have officially filed to run for county office in the 2026 election, expanding the party's slate and ensuring Hamilton County voters will have Democratic choices in several key countywide races this November.

The candidates who filed their paperwork at the Hamilton County Clerk's Office are:

- Charles Hollowell for Sheriff
- Alexandra Wilson for Clerk
- Ti'Gre McNear for Commissioner, District 1
- Doug May for County Council, District 3

These candidates join a growing Democratic ticket focused on strengthening local government through responsible leadership, transparency, and public service.

"Across Hamilton County, Democratic candidates are stepping forward because they believe our communities deserve thoughtful, accountable



Photo provided

(From left) Charles Hollowell, Alexandra Wilson, Ti'Gre McNear, and Doug May filed for office on July 2.

leadership and real choices at the ballot box," Hamilton County Democratic Party Chairman Josh Lowry said. "The enthusiasm we're seeing from candidates, volunteers, and voters reflects the momentum building across our county. Every office matters, and we're proud to offer strong candidates who are committed to serving

their neighbors."

The addition of these four candidates continues the Hamilton County Democratic Party's efforts to compete across the county and ensure voters have meaningful choices in local elections. Over the past several election cycles, Democrats have expanded candidate recruitment, increased volunteer

engagement, and built a year-round grassroots organization dedicated to serving Hamilton County communities.

The Hamilton County Democratic Party encourages residents interested in volunteering, supporting candidates, or learning more about the 2026 campaign to visit hamcodemsin.org.

Fox Hollow follow-up documentary hits Hulu Wednesday

The REPORTER

Return to Fox Hollow: New Victims, Darker Secrets, a follow-up to the docuseries *The Fox Hollow Murders: Playground of a Serial Killer* that continues the investigation into serial killer Herb Baumeister's crimes, begins streaming Wednesday, July 8, on **Hulu** and **Hulu on Disney+** for bundle subscribers.

The documentary will feature exclusive interviews, new evidence, and fresh developments tied to one of the largest unidentified human remains cases in the United States.

The original four-part series, which premiered in February 2025, was nominated for an Emmy® Award for Outstanding Crime and

Justice Documentary and was ABC News Studios' most-watched docuseries on Hulu in 2025 (based on hours streamed). The docuseries followed Hamilton County Coroner Jeff Jellison as he reopened the decades-old investigation after thousands of human bones were discovered in the woods surrounding Fox Hollow Farm, Baumeister's sprawling Indiana estate.

Return to Fox Hollow picks up as investigators continue their efforts to identify additional victims and unravel lingering mysteries surrounding the case. The new documentary special explores emerging questions about potential accomplices, missing evidence and witness



Graphic provided

accounts that continue to evolve decades after the killings.

Return to Fox Hollow is produced by One Traveler and All3Media America for ABC News Studios. Alex Jablonski is the director. Jen Casey, Nick Gilhool, Alex Walton, Angela

Borg, Alex Jablonski, and Jacob-Cohen Holmes are executive producers for One Traveler and All3 Media. For ABC News Studios, David Sloan is the senior executive producer, and Victoria Thompson is executive producer.

Scott Jaworski named Tipton Community Schools superintendent

Submitted by Tipton Community School Corp.

The Tipton Community School Corporation (TCSC) Board of Trustees has named Scott Jaworski as the next superintendent, effective July 1.

Jaworski, who has served as Associate Superintendent since 2025 and previously as Director of Student Achievement, assumed the role following the retirement of Superintendent Dr. Ryan Glaze.



Jaworski

Jaworski brings more 14 years of experience in education, including roles as a math department chair at Hamilton Southeastern Schools, a math instructional coach for Anderson Community Schools, and a School Improvement Specialist at the Indiana Department of Education. While at the IDOE, he also hosted the *Leading and Learning* podcast for school leaders. A native of Fort Wayne, he holds bachelor's and master's degrees from Ball State University and is completing his Education Specialist Degree.

"On behalf of the Tipton Community School Corporation Board of Trustees, I am pleased to congratulate Scott Jaworski on his appointment as our next Superintendent," Board President Robert Cochrane, II said. "Scott's selection reflects the Board's strong confidence in his leadership, character, and unwavering commitment to the students, staff, and families of our district. Throughout his tenure at TCSC, Scott has consistently demonstrated a student-centered approach, a collaborative leadership style, and a deep understanding of the values that make our schools and community special."

See *Tipton* . . . Page 2

ANDY'S MOM from Page 1

These movies and voices are an escape from all that has happened these last 31 years. I know my dad would have loved taking his grandkids to the new movie, but I suppose he has the best seat in the house from Heaven.

Life is constantly changing. That's the way it's supposed to be, I guess. For now, I cling to the simplicity of these movies and cherish the memories. I sit next to my children as they, too, enjoy the same characters and

share a love for the gang's next adventure. At some point we all have to grow up. I sit knowing that I was once Andy when these stories began and am now Andy's mom. My mom is now Andy's grandmother.

A lot changes, but not everything. To infinity and beyond.

Megan Rathz is a wife, mother, and teacher. She says everything she has ever learned in life came from her Master Gardener mother.

REPORTER
Your Hometown Newspaper

MON TUE WED THU FRI

84 85 87 87 86
68 67 68 71

American Bank of Freedom

CSO thanks everyone for their patience during stormy July 4

Submitted

Editor's note: The following is a message from Carmel Symphony Orchestra Music Director and Conductor David Commanday.

Thank you all for your understanding and support through a stormy Fourth of July.

Thank you to our musicians for your patience and understanding for gearing up to perform and waiting out the weather to see if we might catch a break. Sorry that it didn't shift in our favor.

Thank you to our supporters and audience who also waited to see what might happen. We really were excited to perform our patriotic music celebrating our nation's 250th Anniversary and know you share our disappointment that weather had other plans.

Thank you to the City of Carmel and Mayor Sue Finkam for your contribution to our organization. It is

thanks to donors such as the City that we can support a fully professional orchestra.

Thank you to the City's public safety officials and event organizers who were carefully monitoring the forecasts to keep us all safe.

Thank you Rotary Club of Carmel for organizing this massive annual two-day celebration of our nation's freedom. We are always honored to be featured performers in your musical lineup each year. Your volunteers were hard at work long before any of us arrived and long after we left. We appreciate the effort, and know you are equally exasperated by weather conditions, which are out of your control.

We are all very lucky to live in a nation such as ours where we can gather safely as a community to celebrate our freedoms. We look forward to seeing you at one of our performances this season!



Photo provided by Carmel Symphony Orchestra CSO Music Director/Conductor David Commanday and his wife Karla Commanday-Mirosav outside CSO offices during the CarmelFest fireworks.

Noblesville Cultural Arts Commission announces two free July events

The REPORTER

The Noblesville Cultural Arts Commission (NCAC) invites the community to enjoy two outstanding free arts events this month, featuring an evening of live concert music and a classic silent film with live accompaniment.

The month begins at 6:30 p.m. Sunday, July

12 with a performance by the Indianapolis Municipal Band at Federal Hill Commons, 175 Logan St. One of Indiana's premier concert bands, the Indianapolis Municipal Band has entertained audiences for generations with a repertoire that includes patriotic favorites, Broadway classics, marches, movie music, and popular selections. Families are encouraged to bring lawn chairs or blankets and enjoy an evening of music in one of Noblesville's premier outdoor venues.

The celebration of the arts continues at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, July 18 with the



NCAC's Vintage Film Series at Logan Street Theater, 1274 Logan St. This month's feature is *Spies* (1928), the acclaimed suspense thriller directed by legendary filmmaker Fritz Lang. The silent film will be presented with live piano accompaniment, offering audiences an authentic classic cinema experience.

Both events are free and open to the public as part of the Noblesville Cultural Arts Commission's ongoing commitment to providing accessible arts programming for the community.

For more information about these events and the Noblesville Cultural Arts Commission's programs, visit noblesvillearts.org.

Main Street Productions, Inc. Presents

Alice in Wonderland

Adapted by: Anne Coulter Martens
Based on the classic by: Lewis Carroll
Directed by: Amber K. Roth

July 16th - July 26th, 2026
Thursday, Friday, Saturday Shows at 7:30 pm,
Sunday Shows at 2:30 pm

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For reservations visit our website:
www.basilewestfieldplayhouse.org

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TIPTON

from Page 1

Cochrane continued, "One of the most exciting aspects of Scott's appointment is that he has grown professionally within our corporation. His advancement through leadership roles at TCSC has allowed him to build meaningful relationships, gain valuable institutional knowledge, and develop a clear vision for the future of our schools. He understands both the opportunities and challenges facing public education, and he is uniquely positioned to lead our district forward. The Board believes Scott's leadership will provide continuity, stability, and a continued focus on academic excellence, fiscal responsibility, and positive student outcomes. We are

excited to partner with him as we build upon the strong foundation established within our corporation and work together to ensure every student has the opportunity to succeed. We look forward to this next chapter for Tipton Community School Corporation and are confident that under Scott's leadership, our schools will continue to thrive."

Jaworski will spend the coming months collaborating with district leaders, staff, and community stakeholders to shape priorities for the 2026-27 school year.

"I am honored and humbled to serve as Superintendent of Tipton Community School Corporation," Jaworski said. "TCSC is a spe-

cial place - a district filled with talented educators, dedicated staff, and students who inspire us every day. I look forward to building on the strong foundation established under Dr. Glaze's leadership and working together to ensure every student has the opportunities, support, and encouragement they need to thrive."

In the year ahead, Jaworski said he plans to focus on strengthening systems that use data to respond quickly and effectively to student learning needs, supporting staff growth through meaningful professional learning connected to classroom practice, building efficient district systems that responsibly steward community resources, and fostering a welcoming school environment that celebrates the students, staff, families, and community members who make TCSC a special place.

Jaworski and his wife, Jessica, reside in Tipton with their two children, Cooper and Lilly.

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THE REPORTER

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* APY is Annual Percentage Yield. APY is effective as of 6/30/2026 and is subject to change without notice. Minimum balance to open account and obtain APY is \$1,000.00. Early withdrawal may be subject to penalty. Fees may reduce earnings on the account. Other standard and special rate maturity terms are available. Member FDIC



FRIDAY \$5 Adults
 12 & under FREE
 Concerts start at 7 pm Gates open at 6 pm



Mellencougar:
America 250 Celebration



July 10



Cool Creek Park
2000 E. 151st St., Carmel

Scan the QR code
 to purchase tickets or by going
 to myhamiltoncountyparks.com.

You're a grand old flag!



Reporter photos

Early in the day Saturday, July 4, while the denizens of Arcadia (left) and Atlanta (middle and right) were off barbecuing, attending festivals, and otherwise enjoying their Fourth festivities of choice, The Reporter was dropping off newspapers for our subscribers to read with Monday's mail. Along the way we snapped a few photos of the quiet patriotism Midwestern American towns do so well. Flags lined the streets in those tiny towns, and it did our collective old newspaper hearts good to see the streets waving the red, white, and blue.

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Thanks for reading!

Father & Son capture the Spirit of '76 ... 50 years apart

The REPORTER

These two poems are penned by father and son, Paul Joseph Wise and Jason Wise. Both are U.S. Army Veterans and Noblesville natives. Jason

now lives in Tipton County.

In July 1976, the *Noblesville Ledger* published a story and photographs of Paul, as well as his Bicentennial poem titled "One

Nation Under God" that appears below left. He passed away in 1987 when Jason was still a child.

For the country's semiquincentennial – and in honor of his father –

Jason wrote "One Nation Still Under God," which appears below right.

Thank you both for your service to this great nation and for sharing your poems with readers.

One Nation Under God Written by Paul Joseph Wise July 4, 1976 — The 200th Year

From time to time we need to pause
In silent contemplation
Of the heritage which brought about
This bright and shining nation

For if we disregard the years
Since our nation had its birth
We may somehow fail to notice
Just how much our freedom's worth

History tells the time and place
Men proudly stood as brothers
Willing then to fight and die
To meet the needs of others

The ruthless hand of tyranny
That sought to beat them down
Met headlong with the tempest which
Lashed out against the crown

Defiantly their souls spoke out
To gain their equal station
With declaration why they were
Impelled to separation

Standing firm with dauntless courage
They resolved forevermore
To free themselves if need be
By the crucible of war

Blind hatred didn't drive them on
But visions crisp and clear
Of a nation brimming over
With freedom everywhere

Against overwhelming odds
They fought against restrictions
With an arsenal of courage
And the strength of their convictions

For they believed as we today
That no man can be greater
Than fellow men whose rights have been
Endowed by their Creator

These men imparted principles
To later generations
Which helped to make America
The greatest of all nations

Truly they have lit our pathway
With a lamp that cannot dim
It's the grand illumination
Wrought by faith alone in Him

And looking back two hundred years
O'er all the roads we've trod
We find success as we remain
One Nation Under God!

One Nation Still Under God Written by Jason Wise July 4, 2026 — The 250th Year

Two hundred fifty years have passed
Since freedom's bell first tolled,
When hopeful hearts in trembling faith
Defied a tyrant's hold.

Upon that parchment, bold and clear,
Their sacred honor signed,
Declaring men were born with rights
That could not be confined.

Through winter's frost at Valley Forge,
Through cannon's smoke and flame,
Through whispered prayers in darkest hours
Their steadfast courage came.

Not perfect men, nor flawless times,
Yet guided from Above,
They strove to build a shining land
Upon liberty and love.

The centuries have tested us
With trial, fire, and scar —
Brother set 'gainst brother once,
And children sent to wars afar

We've walked through shadowed valleys deep,
Through sorrow, loss, and pain,
Yet still the lamp of freedom burns
Across the fruited plain.

For though the storms of doubt arise
And tempests 'round us roar,
May the truths that shaped our founding days
Stand firm forevermore.

That every soul has sacred worth,
No matter creed nor name;
That justice, tempered well with grace,
Exalts a nation's frame.

So let us pause in gratitude
On this historic day,
And guard with prayer the precious gift
They forged in such a way.

May we, like them, with courage rise
When liberty is trod,
Determined still to keep this land
One Nation Under God.

And if our children one day ask
What marked this milestone year,
May we be known as faithful hearts
Who chose hope over fear.

For freedom's flame is ours to tend,
Its stewardship our rod —
That generations yet unborn
May praise our sovereign God.

Don't just ride the rails ... Bike them!

Forest Park Rail Adventure
An 8-mile round trip rail bike ride starting at Hobbs Station in Forest Park.
White River Family Cruise
Enjoy this short, scenic rail bike ride from Hobbs Station in Forest Park.



NickelPlateExpress.com/railbike-rides

Lights Over Morse parade grand marshal surprises parks director with state award



Photo provided

(NEAR RIGHT) Cicero chose former Indiana State Police Superintendent Doug Carter as this year's Lights Over Morse Parade Grand Marshal on Saturday morning, July 4. (FAR RIGHT) On Friday, July 3, Carter presented Cicero Park Superintendent James Hunter with the Sagamore of the Wabash award.

Photos by Mike Berry

Cicero Town Council Vice President Dennis Johnson said the following about Jim Hunter receiving the Sagamore of the Wabash:

“Throughout his career and personal life, Jim has exemplified the spirit of leadership, service, and dedication that the Sagamore of the Wabash recognizes. “Jim Hunter has consistently demonstrated an unwavering commitment to the betterment of his community. His volunteer efforts, professional achievements, and personal integrity set him apart as a role model for others. Whether leading local initiatives, mentoring young people, or contributing to statewide projects, Jim’s positive impact is both broad and deeply felt. “In addition to his service, Jim’s character is defined by kindness, humility, and a tireless work ethic. He approaches every challenge with creativity and compassion, inspiring those around him to strive for excellence and to serve others. His dedication to the values that make Indiana great is evident in all that he does.”

MSP brings to life three ‘Voices of America’



Photos from video by Rob Slaven / IndyGhostLight.com

On Friday evening, July 3, Main Street Productions (MSP) presented *Voices of America: An Oral Interpretation Performance* as part of Westfield's Independence Day weekend celebration at Grand Junction Plaza. The free performance traces 250 years of the American story through the voices of three pivotal historical figures (from left) John Adams (played by Thom Johnson), Harriet Tubman (played by Jada Moon), and John F. Kennedy (played by Matt McKee).

CARMEL

FISHERS

NOBLESVILLE

WESTFIELD

NORTHERN TOWNS

TENDERLOIN TUESDAY
★ HAMILTON COUNTY, IN ★

EVERY TUESDAY
JUNE 30-JULY 28



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Tuesdays may get saucy.
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Westfield's parade was a sight to behold

Westfield blocked off the streets on Friday, July 3 for the city's parade celebrating America's 250th birthday, and it was exactly what you'd expect from the Hoosier Heartland. If you were there, you already know. If you were not there, let these photos tell the story because they are worth more than the thousand words we could have attached to them. (Photos by Justin Sicking)



Westfield just keeps on rocking the 4th!

Why would they have a parade on July 3rd, you ask? Because on the 4th, Westfield got to rockin'! It may have been almost tropical before the rain hit early in the July 4th evening, but a little heat never stopped any real Americans from celebrating anything. People packed Grand Park for well-hydrated family fun in the sun. Granted, when the sun went away and the storm hit, safety concerns were taken seriously. For a few hours there were even doubts about the night's fireworks, but when the weather passed, the show went on, as we are told shows must. (Reporter photos)



Nobody gets festive like Carmel

Some festivals are just too much fun for one day of the year, and that is how Carmel likes to roll. On both July 3 and 4, a large swath of downtown was set aside for an American birthday party 250 years in the making. Of the many highlights from the weekend, the parade showcased how much we all love this country, even if we cannot agree on what direction we want it to move. Thanks for setting politics aside and for one weekend and waving the flag together! (Reporter photos by Aida Karim)

Duke Energy commits to community involvement

By AIDA KARIM
news@readthereporter.com



LaBarr

The Reporter spoke with Mark LaBarr, government and community relations manager for Duke Energy, about the importance of community sponsorship for events like CarmelFest.

According to LaBarr, Duke Energy decided to make a contribution considering the significance of CarmelFest and the country's 250th anniversary. Sponsors ensure the event is sustainable for all community members to continue to enjoy.

"Duke Energy this year has been doing a series of grants, focusing on America 250, supporting organizations to assist with affordability," he said.

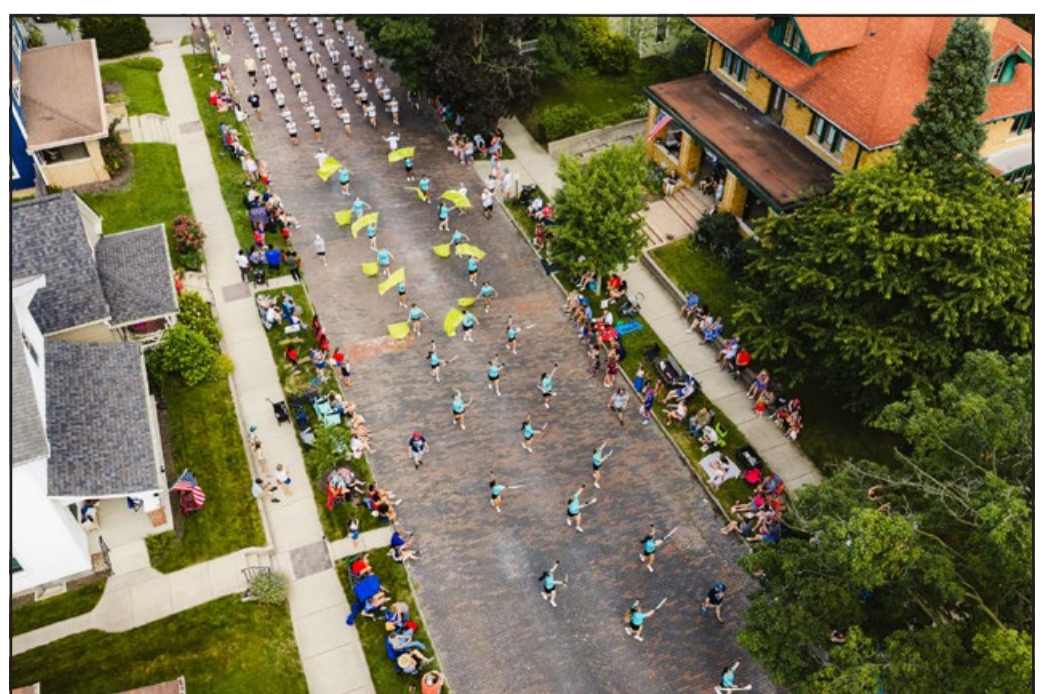
LaBarr told The Reporter much of the contributions go toward food pantries, heat relief, and veteran support.

"It's a very noteworthy time in our history, 250 years of independence," he said. "We felt like it was an important time to make these community investments."



County seat lines the streets for July 4

While the Noblesville July 4th festival and concert at Forest Park were canceled due to Saturday evening storms, that afternoon parade went off without a hitch! We know parades are all specifically engineered to appeal to a terrestrial perspective, but let's set that prejudice aside for two seconds and enjoy that great aerial shot of the parade route with the courthouse in the distance. One of our resident newspaper nerds is also rather fond of the radio-controlled cars with a microdrone providing overwatch support. Thank you, Noblesville, for both showing that fine American spirit of unity we could all use a little more of, and for celebrating our country's history with a modern tech flair. Thank you to presenting sponsor, Gaylor Electric; the Grand Marshal, Boys & Girls Club of Noblesville; and Special Guest, the Guerin Catholic State Champion baseball team. (Photos by Matthew Doudt Photography & Jenni Backs)



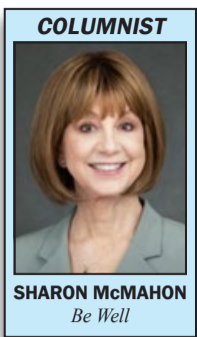
Don't give up on those New Year goals & you will achieve what you desire

"The best laid plans of mice and men often go awry." – Robert Burns, 1785

Well, we are facing that mid-point in our "New Year's Resolutions" we made just about six months ago.

Some of you probably were gung-ho about those, noting the goals you have identified in one, or many, categories including career, family, financial, fitness and health, hobbies, etc. Some of you may have been more casual about your 2026 resolutions, with just a mental note and a wait-and-see attitude. I venture to say that we all had some ideas as we completed our holiday to-do lists late last year and focused on the year ahead about what we wished to change, improve, omit, or add to our lives.

What can happen – and often does happen – is that within a few months after we get excited about those resolutions, we begin to



SHARON McMAHON
Be Well

realize that we have not yet started to make those changes. Or perhaps we did begin to (take your pick) incorporate a better eating plan, start an exercise program, schedule more time with the family, begin a job search, volunteer, enroll in classes, etc., but as often happens, life intervenes and we just run out of steam.

Don't give up! Although we are at the half-way point, it is still 2026! Why not revisit those resolutions and goals, re-evaluate, and consider your options? When we are at the beginning of a nice, shiny new year it is very easy to be a bit starry-eyed regarding those changes. In particular those of us "of a certain age" sometimes back off from making, or even considering, changes. I find in working with clients on their health and fitness goals that the wish for speedy results in both the way they look

and feel can possibly undermine the continued quest to reach their goals. Those who stay focused and realize that a "quick fix" (and don't we get bombarded with those ads!) will never be the answer to obtaining a more fit and healthy body will most likely reach their fitness goals.

I believe that as long as we, regardless of our age, make a commitment to setting the goals and dreaming the dreams we will find that we can achieve much of what we desire.

Here is a suggestion, and something I have done which I find helpful. Find a photo (you know what I mean, one of those "hard copy" photos that you can actually hold in your hand ...) of yourself at an age when you felt *optimistic, healthy, and excited about the future*. That may be when you were 8, 12, 15, 25, or 50, it doesn't matter, put that photo in a frame where you will see it every day. That person is YOU!

It is never too late to take a deep breath, review

that "list" you made six months ago and go forward. We all want to be happy, and we often believe that attaining whatever our goals or resolutions may be will offer that to us. I hope you continue your quest to better your life in whatever categories you believe need the most work.

Another of my favorite quotes is offered by Eleanor Roosevelt: "Happiness is not a goal ... it's a by-product of a life well lived." I hope you live well and healthy, and that the second half of 2026 is a good one for you, keeping your goals in front of you and moving toward them in a realistic, focused, and positive way.

Happy Rest of the New Year!

Sharon McMahon, CNWC

The opinions expressed in this article are not intended to replace advice of your personal physician or licensed health professional. Please consult your physician for any issues you may have related to nutrition or fitness activity.

Lisa Thornton named Shepherd's Center development director

The REPORTER

Lisa F. Thornton has been named the new director of development and communications for Shepherd's Center of Hamilton County (SCHC).

Thornton is a nonprofit leader with extensive experience in development, marketing, and communications, including service as a CEO in the nonprofit sector. Her career reflects a consistent focus on advancing mission-driven organizations across nonprofit and corporate sectors, including experience in senior services and community impact.

Most recently, she served as Chief Development and Marketing Offi-

cer with Meals on Wheels of Hamilton County, reinforcing her longstanding commitment to enhancing the quality of life for older adults.

She holds a bachelor's degree in Communications from the University of Louisville and a Certificate in Fund Raising Management (CFRM) through the Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy.

She brings her extensive experience in development and communications in support of strengthening SCHC's mission of serving older adults.

To connect with Thornton, email her at lisat@scofhc.org.



Thornton

Meeting Notices

The Westfield Washington Public Library Board of Trustees will meet at 7 p.m. Wednesday, July 8, 2026, in Meeting Room 2A of the Westfield Washington Public Library, 17400 Westfield Blvd., Unit A.

The Sheridan Public Library Board will meet in an executive session pursuant to IC 5-14-1.5-6.1 to discuss a job performance evaluation of individual employees on Monday, July 13, 2026, followed by the regular monthly meeting at 6 p.m. at the library, located at 103 W. 1st St.

The Carmel Mayor's Advisory Commission on Housing will meet at 9 a.m. Thursday, July 9, 2026, in the Council Chambers on the second floor of Carmel City Hall, 1 Civic Square.

The Hamilton County Airport Authority will meet in an executive session at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 8, 2026, pursuant to Implementation of Security Systems IC 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(2)(C); and Purchase or Lease of Real Estate IC 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(2)(D). A public session will follow at 6:30 p.m. in the Commissioners' Courtroom on the first floor of the Hamilton County Government & Judicial Center, 1 Hamilton County Square, Noblesville.

Each year, the Hamilton County Reporter requests government entities to notify us of public meetings as their Open Door Law notification under I.C. 5-14-1.5-5. The Reporter publishes these notices as a public service in our Tuesday through Friday digital editions. Meeting notices for Open Door Law compliance can be sent to PublicNotices@ReadTheReporter.com.

Three Hamilton County students earn masters' degrees at Franklin College

The REPORTER

Franklin College's 2026 Commencement took place May 23 in Spurlock Center Gymnasium on the Franklin College campus. The top five majors of the graduating class were exercise science, business, biology, psychology, and public relations. The college conferred

164 undergraduate degrees and 28 graduate degrees.

Martha Sanders Hoover, J.D., delivered the commencement address, and was awarded an honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters degree during the ceremony. Her speech was titled "Everything You Think." She reminded the

graduates, "In a world full of noise and distraction, faced with uncertainty and continuous change, the ability to think for yourself is the most transferable skill of all."

Graduates from Hamilton County earning masters' degrees include:

- Ruba Bakdash, Carm-

el, earned a Master of Science degree in physician assistant studies.

• Courtney Jade Swingewood, Carmel, earned a Master of Science degree in physician assistant studies.

• Lauren Kay West, Noblesville, earned a Master of Science degree in physician assistant studies.



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Songbook Academy announces new guest mentors & faculty

The REPORTER

The Great American Songbook Foundation has expanded the artistic team for the 2026 Songbook Academy®, adding Postmodern Jukebox founder Scott Bradlee, Emmy and GRAMMY Award winner Adam Kantor, and acclaimed singer, actor, musician, songwriter, arranger, and musical director Miche Braden as guest mentors. The Songbook also welcomes Broadway performers Janet Dacal and Michael Maliakel among several new faculty members.

The annual summer intensive will take place July 11 to 18 at Allied Solutions Center for the Performing Arts in Carmel.

Together, these guest mentors and faculty members will guide 40 talented high school singers from across the country who have been selected to participate in this year's program, which features three public events at the Payne & Mencias Palladium. The events include the free **Public Masterclass** at 2 p.m. on Monday, July 13; the **Songbook Showcase** featuring solos by all 40 students at 7 p.m. on Thursday, July 16; and the culminating performance, **Songbook Academy in Concert**, on Saturday, July 18 at 7 p.m.

As previously announced, the Public Masterclass will feature Lea Salonga, best known for her Tony Award-winning role in *Miss Saigon* and for providing the singing voices of Princess Jasmine in *Aladdin* and Fa Mulan in *Mulan* and *Mulan II*, alongside five-time GRAMMY Award nominee Michael Feinstein, founder of the Great American Songbook Foundation. The Songbook Showcase will feature Feinstein with Broadway star Mandy Gonzalez, known for her role in the megahit *Hamilton* as Angelica Schuyler, for originating Nina Rosario in the Tony Award-winning Broadway musical *In the Heights*, and for starring as

Elphaba in the Broadway production of *Wicked*.

New guest mentors for the 2026 Songbook Academy include:

Scott Bradlee is the pianist, arranger and creative force behind Postmodern Jukebox, the popular time-twisting musical collective that combines the popular hits of the present with the musical styles of yesteryear. Inspired by the work of jazz pioneers and American Songbook composers after a chance encounter with George Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue*, Bradlee began uploading various "musical experiments" to YouTube, incorporating a rotating cast of musicians, singers, and tap dancers. Today, Postmodern Jukebox has more than 6.5 million subscribers and performs over 200 shows a year worldwide, including headlining appearances at Radio City Music Hall and Royal Albert Hall in London.

Adam Kantor is currently starring in *Are You Now or Have You Ever Been at City Center* off-Broadway. He won an Emmy and a GRAMMY Award for his performance in the Tony Award-winning production of *The Band's Visit* on Broadway, and previously starred on Broadway in *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Next to Normal*, and the final cast of *Rent*, and off-Broadway in *The Last Five Years* and *Avenue Q*. He guest starred on TV in *High Potential*, *Bilions*, *The Good Wife*, and starred in the feature film *Either Side of Midnight*. He is also a Tony-nominated co-producer of *Cats: The Jellie Ball*.

Miche Braden is a singer, actor, musician, songwriter, arranger and musical director from Detroit, where she was an Artist in Residence with the Detroit Council of the Arts, the founder and former lead singer of *Straight Ahead* (women's jazz band), and was a protégé of Motown musicians Thomas "Beans" Bowles, Earl Van Dyke, and jazz master Harold

McKinney. Nominated for the Drama Desk, Lucille Lortel, and Off Broadway Alliance Awards for *The Devil's Music: The Life & Blues of Bessie Smith*, her credits include *Lady Day at Emerson's Bar & Grill*, *Nina Simone: Four Women*, and television appearances on *Inventing Anna*, *Raising Kanan*, *Bull* and *The Blacklist*.

For full bios of all the guest mentors at the 2026 Songbook Academy, visit [TheSongbook.org/Mentors26](https://www.songbook.org/Mentors26).

The Songbook Academy has also expanded its faculty and visiting clinician roster with several acclaimed performers and educators.

New faculty members for the 2026 Songbook Academy include:

Janet Dacal, joining as a vocal coach, is a Drama Desk Award-winning Broadway performer whose credits include originating the role of Carla before taking over as Nina Rosario in *In the Heights*, *New York, New York*, *Prince of Broadway*, *Wonderland*, and the national tour of *The Band's Visit*. Beginning under the mentorship of GRAMMY Award winner Gloria Estefan, she has collaborated with Ricky Martin, Shakira, Jennifer Lopez, and Marc Anthony, and toured internationally with Luis Enrique. Her solo debut album *MY STANDARDS* reimagines the Great American Songbook through the lens of her Cuban-American heritage.

Michael Maliakel, joining as a vocal coach, recently finished a year as Nick Carraway in *The Great Gatsby* on Broadway after spending three years as the title role in Disney's *Aladdin*. A trailblazing Indian-American performer and award-winning multi-genre vocalist, his stage credits include *The Phantom of the Opera* (National Tour), *Titanic* (NYCC Encores), Prince Eric in *The Little Mermaid* (MUNY), *Sunset Boulevard* (Kennedy Cen-



Photos courtesy Great American Songbook Foundation

(From left) Michael Feinstein, Lea Salonga, Adam Kantor, Miche Braden, Scott Bradlee, and Mandy Gonzalez are this year's guest mentors for the Songbook Academy.

ter), and Mira Nair's *Monsoon Wedding* (Berkeley Rep). Michael's on-screen work includes CBS' *Bull* and *FBI* and *Before* alongside Billy Crystal (Apple TV+).

Other special guests and clinicians joining this year's Songbook Academy include:

Michael Hanley, serving as a vocal technique clinician, is an Associate Professor of Voice at the Boston Conservatory at Berklee and Program Director of the Vocal/Choral Intensive. A sought-after pedagogue recognized for his expertise in vocal cross-training, he frequently presents at national conferences on multi-style pedagogy and has helped students build careers on and off-Broadway and in opera.

Nancy Whelan, leading the Songbook Choir, is a highly sought-after pianist/keyboardist with extensive Broadway touring and regional theater experience. Her credits include the national tours of *Les Misérables*, *Frozen*, *An American in Paris*, and *Matilda the Musical*, along with decades of experience as a collaborative pianist with major arts organizations.

Kenny Shepard, choreographing Songbook Academy in Concert, writes, directs, and choreographs projects starring GRAMMY, Tony, Emmy, Obie, and

Drama Desk Award winners. An Assistant Teaching Professor at Ball State University, he choreographed Jasmine Amy Rogers' live concert *Where I Wanna Be*, filmed for PBS, and is an on-camera choreographer for Broadway Jr. and their Disney Collection.

April Varner, a 2015 Songbook Academy alumna returning as a special guest performer, is a New York-based jazz vocalist recognized for her bebop technique and contemporary storytelling. She was named Rising Star Vocalist in the 73rd *DownBeat* Critics Poll and won the 2023 International Ella Fitzgerald Jazz Vocal Competition.

For more information on all faculty and clinicians, visit [TheSongbook.org/Faculty26](https://www.songbook.org/Faculty26).

Ticket and event information for all three public events of the 2026 Songbook Academy can be found at [TheSongbook.org/SongbookAcademy26](https://www.songbook.org/SongbookAcademy26), or by calling the Fifth Third Bank Box Office at (317) 843-3800 or toll-free at (877) 909-2787.

The Songbook Academy receives generous support from the Efroymsen Family Fund, Traditions Senior Communities, the Ella Fitzgerald Charitable Foundation, the Ira & Leonore S. Gershwin Trusts, The Blanche and Irving Laurie Foundation, Westfield Veterinary Care, the City of

Carmel, the National Endowment for the Arts, and Community Health.

Guest Mentor support is provided by generous contributions from individual donors, including Libby and Randy Brown, Michael and Margie Draper, Peggy Ford, The Fuller Family, David Gerstein, Tim and Karyl McGeath, Bob and Rose Popovich, and The Tobin Family.

About the Great American Songbook Foundation

The mission of the Great American Songbook Foundation, founded in 2007 by five-time Grammy® Award nominee Michael Feinstein, is to inspire and educate by celebrating the foundational era of American popular music. Headquartered at Allied Solutions Center for the Performing Arts in Carmel, the Foundation advances this rich legacy by curating physical artifacts of its creators, performers and publishers in the Songbook Library & Archives; operating a multimedia exhibit gallery; overseeing the Songbook Hall of Fame; offering programs for the public and research opportunities for scholars and artists; and providing educational opportunities for student musicians, including the annual Songbook Academy® summer intensive. The Foundation is a Cultural Affiliate of the Los Angeles-based Grammy Museum®. More information is available at [TheSongbook.org](https://www.songbook.org).

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Latest updates from Civic Theatre

The REPORTER

Here is the latest news from the Civic Theatre, 3 Carter Green, Carmel.

Get your tickets for Chicago: Teen Edition

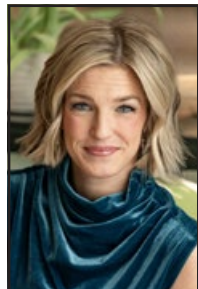
In "Roaring Twenties" Chicago, chorine Roxie Hart murders a faithless lover and convinces her hapless husband, Amos, to take the rap ... until he finds out he's been duped and turns on Roxie.

Convicted and sent to death row, Roxie and another "Merry Murderess," Velma Kelly, vie for the spotlight and the headlines, ultimately joining forces

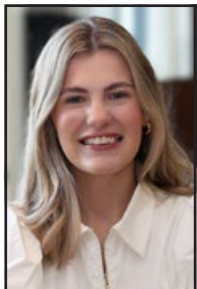
in search of the American Dream: fame, fortune, and acquittal. This sharp-edged satire features a dazzling score that sparked immortal staging by Bob Fosse.

Civic Theatre's 2026 YAP musical brings together talented high school performers from all over central Indiana for an exciting, fully staged production. This dynamic program provides young actors the opportunity to build their skills, collaborate creatively, and shine on the Civic Theatre stage.

Click here to purchase tickets.



Gray



Dragula



Hochhalter

Pence Media Group grows digital services

The REPORTER

Pence Media Group (PMG) announces the promotion of Samantha Gray to Director of Digital Services to continue expanding the consultancy's digital and paid media service line. PMG has also added two additional new team members, Ashley Dragula, who is a Digital & Marketing Strategist, as well as Peyton Hochhalter, a Senior Content & Marketing Strategist.

"Samantha's promotion to Director of Digital Services reflects not only her exceptional leadership and expertise, but also the tremendous growth of Pence Media Group's digital marketing capabilities," PMG Owner and Operator Nicole Pence Becker said. "Her vision, collaborative approach and deep understanding of paid media and performance strategy will continue to drive innovation and growth for both our clients and our consultancy, especially as we expand the team by adding Ashley and Peyton to the mix."

As Director of Digital Services, Gray leads the consultancy's digital strategy and performance marketing initiatives. With more than fifteen years of experience across paid media, search marketing, analytics, and integrated digital strategy, she helps organizations turn complex business goals into data-driven

marketing programs that drive measurable growth and long-term impact.

As a Digital & Marketing Strategist, Dragula supports consultancy clients by developing, managing, and optimizing campaigns across platforms including Google, Meta, and LinkedIn. She works closely with internal and client teams to analyze performance data, uncover actionable insights, and identify opportunities to improve campaign effectiveness and overall digital strategy.

As a Content & Marketing Strategist, Hochhalter curates strong brands while refining their digital identities that make them look polished while authentically reflecting the heart of the organization. She brings a creative yet analytical approach to her work, whether developing social media campaigns, analyzing engagement metrics, or creating compelling content.

PMG's digital and paid media services are designed to turn attention into action. Through building and managing digital ecosystems that support visibility, conversion and sustained growth, Pence Media Group helps their clients see how strategy meets performance.

To learn more about PMG and PMG's services, visit PenceMediaGroup.com.

New roundabout coming soon to 116th Street & AAA Way in Carmel

Submitted by City of Carmel

The City of Carmel is preparing for a construction project at one of the city's busiest intersections.

Starting Monday, July 13, the intersection at 116th Street and AAA Way will be closed for the construction of a new roundabout. Access to the businesses in the Merchants Square and surrounding areas will remain open for the duration of the project.

The upgraded intersection will replace the current traffic signal, improving safety and reducing travel time for community members, businesses, and visitors.

Another example of Carmel's commitment to efficient and safe navigation, the project will be accomplished through a full-closure plan that offers the benefits of:

- Reduced construction time



Graphic provided by City of Carmel

This map shows detour routes for the construction at the intersection of 116th Street and AAA Way.

- A safer project for workers and patrons frequenting businesses in the area
- Financial savings of several hundred thousand dollars versus a partial closure

Those needing to access a business south of 116th Street can travel Keystone Parkway and come in from the east. The map shown here illustrates other route options, as well.

The project is expected to be completed in October. If you have additional questions, please contact the Engineering Department at engineering@carmel.in.gov or (317) 571-2441.

Westfield Police arrest two for prostitution

Submitted by Westfield Police Department

On June 23, the Westfield Police Department's Special Investigations Unit (SIU) received a Crime Stoppers tip regarding suspected prostitution and possible human trafficking at The Farmhouse at Lantern Commons Apartments, located near the 16000 Block of Gleam Way.

Detectives immediately initiated an investigation and confirmed likely prostitution-related activity was

occurring at the location. On June 25, detectives arranged a meeting and entered the residence and encountered two adult females. One of the women agreed to engage in sexual activity in exchange for \$300; both individuals were then detained.

Upon executing a search warrant, evidence of sexual activity and prostitution-related activity was located.

As a result of the investigation:

- Yanyi Zhang has been

charged with: Level 5 Felony Promoting Prostitution (two counts); Level 6 Felony Identity Deception; and Class A Misdemeanor Prostitution

Linxia Shi has been charged with: Class A Misdemeanor Prostitution

This investigation was initiated because of a citizen's Crime Stoppers tip and marks the second prostitution investigation concluded by the Special Investigations Unit in the past two months. Both individuals were offered

victim assistance resources during the investigation.

The Westfield Police Department encourages anyone who observes suspicious or criminal activity to report it to the Westfield Police Department or Crime Stoppers. Every report of criminal activity is thoroughly investigated.

A charge is merely an accusation. All defendants are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty in a court of law.

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Two Fishers students make University of Wyoming dean's list

The REPORTER

The University of Wyoming announces that Addie Kane and Cooper Kane, both of Fishers, have made the 2026 spring semester academic Dean's and Dean's Freshman Honor Rolls.

The honor rolls consist of regularly enrolled under-

graduates above freshman standing who earned a 3.4 or better grade-point average, and freshmen who have earned a 3.25 or better grade-point average.

To be eligible, students must have been enrolled for a minimum of 12 credit hours taken for letter grades.

Sheridan Middle School earns runner-up at FFA state convention

Submitted by Sheridan Community Schools

In June, Sheridan Middle School FFA students competed at the Indiana State Convention. These students especially proved their exceptional knowledge and understanding in the Discovery Degree Quiz Bowl Leadership Development Event (LDE) where they earned state runner-up honors.

Each year, over 14,000 Indiana FFA members come



Photos provided

together for three days of leadership workshops, banquets, and competitions. Specifically, the Discovery Degree Quiz Bowl is a team-based leadership development event. Teams answer agriculture questions and FFA-related questions that test their knowledge.

Sheridan Middle School's team was represented by June Harle, Cara Watts, Callie Callahan, and Madie Roberts. In March of this year, this team captured the District Championship where they defeated 11 other

teams to earn a spot at the State Convention.

Over the past many months these individuals have spent countless hours studying and working together so they could put their best foot forward at competition, which they undoubtedly did.

"This team truly earned every bit of this accomplishment," Sheridan Middle School FFA Sponsor Brett Beckner said. "Their commitment to learning went far beyond the classroom. They gave up time after school,

during summer break, and at home to prepare, and watching that hard work pay off on the state stage was incredibly rewarding."

Last year, Sheridan Middle School FFA captured a championship in the Discovery Animal Science Demonstration. This runner-up finish proves the continued dedication and passion of Sheridan's FFA program. The Sheridan community is proud of the way these students represented their town, their school, and the FFA program.

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Walmart & The Salvation Army Launch "Christmas in July" Red Kettle Campaign in Hamilton County

The REPORTER

This July, The Salvation Army in Hamilton County is working alongside Walmart to bring a special "Christmas in July" Red Kettle campaign to Walmart stores and Sam's Club in Hamilton County, offering shoppers an opportunity to give back during a meaningful summer activation.

On Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays, starting July 9, shoppers visiting Walmart or Sam's Club in Hamilton County will see The Salvation Army's Red Kettles stationed outside, where donations will support individuals and families in need across central Indiana.

Funds raised will support the Harbor Light Center's recovery programs, which help thousands of Hoosiers each year to break the bonds of addiction. This initiative reflects the ongoing relationship between Walmart and The Salvation Army, focused on meeting local needs and strengthening communities nationwide.

"The Salvation Army uses funds raised in our Red Kettles to bring God's Hands and Feet to those suffering," said Envoy Charlotte Coffer, Pastor of The Salvation



Photo provided

Army Harbor Light Center. "Just a few hours ringing a bell can make a big impact by removing barriers and providing hope."

The Salvation Army's Red Kettle Campaign has long been a symbol of hope and generosity, traditionally centered around the holiday season. This summer activation extends that spirit, offering another opportunity for community members to make a meaningful impact – bringing hope, joy, and practical support to neighbors in need year-round.

Community members are encouraged to stop by the Red Kettles at Walmart or Sam's Club in Hamilton County starting on July 9 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. to give with joy and support local families. Volunteers

are still needed to ring the bell. Anyone interested in volunteering can visit salarmy.us/indianavolunteer or click on the specific volunteer links for each location below:

- Walmart, 2001 E. 151st St., Carmel (sign up to volunteer as a **bell ringer**)
- Walmart, 8300 E. 96th St., Fishers (sign up to volunteer as a bell ringer at the **retail door** or **grocery door**)
- Walmart, 9354 Amble-side Drive, Fishers (sign up to volunteer as a **bell ringer**)
- Walmart, 16865 Clover Road, Noblesville (sign up to volunteer as a bell ringer at the **retail door** or **grocery door**)
- Sam's Club, 7235 E. 96th St., Fishers (sign up to volunteer as a **bell ringer**)

Gov. Braun appoints 13 local residents to various state boards

The REPORTER

Governor Mike Braun announced on Wednesday, July 1 new appointments to various state boards and commissions. The following individuals are from Hamilton County.

- Barry Hart was appointed to the All Payer Claims Data Base Advisory Board; term expires June 30, 2029.
- Dawn Moore of Community Health Network was appointed to the All Payer Claims Data Base Advisory Board; term expires June 30, 2029.
- Kevin Mahan of Sentinel Strategies was appointed to the Natural Resources Commission; term expires June 30, 2029.
- Steve Henke of Henke Development Group was appointed to the Indiana University Board of Trustees; term expires June 30, 2029.
- Michael Klipsch was appointed to the Purdue University Board of Trustees; term expires June 30, 2029.
- Tracy Mitchell of Bradley & Associates was appointed to the Medicaid Waiver Work Group; serves at the

pleasure of the governor.

- Tracy Fitz of the Indiana Prosecuting Attorneys Council was appointed to the Juvenile Justice State Advisory Group; serves at the pleasure of the governor.
- Kathleen Pilson of Community Health Network was appointed to the Athletic Trainers Board; term expires June 30, 2030.
- Steven Ramos of THINK Holdings LLC was appointed to the Civil Rights Commission; term expires June 30, 2030.
- Sue Silberberg was appointed to the Civil Rights Commission; term expires June 30, 2030.
- Brandi Foreman of IN-ARF was appointed to the Non-Emergency Medical Transportation Commission; term expires June 30, 2027.
- Kim Dodson of ARC of Indiana was appointed to the Non-Emergency Medical Transportation Commission; term expires June 30, 2027.
- Carrie Kozyrski of Duke Energy Corporation was appointed to the Environmental Rules Board; term expires June 30, 2030.

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PICK-UP DAYS: Monday, July 13th from Noon - 6pm
Tuesday, July 14th from Noon - 6pm

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Linda Stallsmith-Davis

April 5, 1950 – July 4, 2026

Linda Kay Stallsmith-Davis, 76, Westfield, passed away on July 4, 2026. She was born in Toledo, Ohio, on April 5, 1950, to the late Billy and Velma (Washer) Graham.

Following graduation from Roy C. Start High School in 1968, Linda continued her education at Owens Community College, graduating in 1980, and later earned her Bachelor of Science in Gerontology from Lourdes College in 1997. Linda's passion and calling were in nursing, and she shared that God-given gift where she worked as an RN in St. Vincent Hospital, Swan Creek Retirement Village, and while living in Florida, she worked at Gulf Coast Hospital. Other facilities where Linda worked included Brookdale Health and Living, and most recently Copper Trace Senior Living.

Linda was avid fan of *Jeopardy!* and could answer many questions pertaining to medical knowledge. She also loved to spend time painting, bird watching, crossword puzzles and wordsearch; however, Linda's greatest joy was spending time with her family, especially her three grandchildren.

Survivors include her devoted husband of 23 years, Daniel Davis; children, Jillian (Mike) Menard, Jeffrey Hahn, Gerald (Kelli) Davis, and Sarah Krietemeyer; grandchildren; Addison, Audrey, Graham, Allison, Emma (Bryan), Madelyn, and Jack; brother Ronald (Karen) Graham; sister, Marcia Johnson, and many nieces and nephews.

A Committal Service will take place at 1 p.m. Saturday, July 11, 2026, at Toledo Memorial Park Cemetery, 6382 Monroe St., Sylvania, Ohio.

In lieu of flowers, contributions can be directed to the Indiana Parkinson Foundation, 14350 Mundy Drive, Ste 800 #181, Noblesville, IN 46060.

Bussell Family Funerals is privileged to assist the family in arrangements.

Condolences: bussellfamilyfunerals.com

Cecilia Norton

April 23, 1934 – July 3, 2026

Cecilia Norton, 92, Fishers, went home to be with her Lord and Savior on Friday, July 3, 2026, at Hamilton Trace of Fishers. She was born on April 23, 1934, to Cecil and Alice (Webb) Boyer in Parma, Mo.

Cecilia was a 1962 graduate of Indiana University and received a master's degree from Butler University in 1976. She worked as an elementary school teacher for many years. Cecilia was a former member of First Baptist Church of Indianapolis. She was a faithful, servant-hearted caregiver to her husband, in-laws, and to close neighbors. She also was dedicated in supporting various ministries through her church.

She is survived by her daughters, Carla (Larry) Morrow and Cathy (Greg) Habegger; grandchildren, Collin Morrow, Logan Morrow, Emily Morrow, Jack (Demi) Habegger, and Ben Habegger; great-grandson, Chase Keys; and her brother, Larry Boyer.

In addition to her parents, Cecilia was preceded in death by her husband, Wendell Norton; grandson, Will Matthew Habegger; brothers, Ralph Boyer, Robert Boyer, and Gary Boyer; and her sisters, Norma Jean Wheeler and Sue Brantum.

Cecilia's family wishes to thank Legacy Hospice LLC of Carmel for their dedication and loving care for the past seven months, specifically Joan, Trinity, Jordan, and Kate. In addition, the family also appreciates the support and kindness extended to our mom and us from the staff at Hamilton Trace.

Graveside services will be held at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, July 7, 2026, at Oaklawn Memorial Gardens, 9700 Allisonville Road, Indianapolis, with Pastor Randy Gilmore officiating. Please be advised that Allisonville Road has construction that will slow traffic.

Memorial contributions may be made to Wheeler Mission Ministries, PO Box 3085, Indianapolis, IN 46204 (wheelermission.org); or Samaritan's Purse, PO Box 3000, Boone, NC 28607 (samaritanaspurse.org); or American Heart Association, PO Box 840692, Dallas, TX 75284-0692 (heart.org).

Condolences: randallroberts.com

TODAY'S BIBLE READING

THE TRANSJORDAN TRIBES

Then Moses gave orders about them to Eleazar the priest and Joshua son of Nun and to the family heads of the Israelite tribes. He said to them, "If the Gadites and Reubenites, every man armed for battle, cross over the Jordan with you before the Lord, then when the land is subdued before you, you must give them the land of Gilead as their possession. But if they do not cross over with you armed, they must accept their possession with you in Canaan."

The Gadites and Reubenites answered, "Your servants will do what the Lord has said. We will cross over before the Lord into Canaan armed, but the property we inherit will be on this side of the Jordan."

Numbers 32:28-32 (NIV)

Angela Meadow (Beeson) Parker

d. July 1, 2026

It is a time for rejoicing! Angela Meadow (Beeson) Parker, 66, went home to be with her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, on July 1, 2026!

Angela was known by many names – Angie, Eee-Ooo, Lady, NanaBee – and lived a life marked by faith, strength, humor, creativity, and service. Angela married Gary Parker in 1978, beginning a family life that spanned 43 years. Together, they built a legacy that will continue through the family she loved so deeply.

Angela earned her Bachelor's degree in Journalism from Ball State while raising her three girls. She then began her career as a writer and editor, and left behind a collection of stories and memoirs for her family to enjoy.

Angela was known for her sassy style, love of the color lime green, and firm belief that chocolate was the only valid flavor of ice cream! She had many interests and hobbies, including historic architecture, restoring furniture, home decorating, thrifting, and bird watching.

Service to others was a significant part of Angela's life, though it was done quietly, without fanfare. Throughout her life, there was always at least one special person on the receiving end of her caretaking. She also loved her time spent volunteering at the food and clothing pantry at her church.

Angela received Jesus Christ as her Savior in her teen years and from that point onward, her faith was central to her life. It was this faith that allowed her to face both her own and her husband's cancer battles with peace and steadfastness.

Angela is survived by her three daughters, Tawni (Michael) Partin, Bethany (Christian) Maciel, Kylie (Richard) Dinoso; three sisters, Kathy (Bob, deceased) Giddings, Charleen (Steve) Luellen, Robin (Bill) Hart; niece, April (Mark) Shafer; her beloved granddaughter, Claire "Hon-eybee" Maciel; and many more. Angela was preceded in death by her husband, Gary Parker.

A memorial will be held Wednesday, July 8, with calling from 4 to 6 p.m. and a service from 6 to 7 p.m., at Randall & Roberts Funeral Home, 1150 Logan St., Noblesville. Pastor Matt Brewer will officiate.

In lieu of flowers, donations are welcomed for the care and maintenance of the Nettle Creek Friends Church and cemetery, where Angela will be laid to rest. Checks payable to Nettle Creek Friends Cemetery can be mailed to: Board Treasurer, 9686 Lacy Road, Hagerstown, IN 47346.

Condolences: randallroberts.com

Michael John Fritsch

March 31, 1966 – June 27, 2026

Michael John Fritsch, 60, Westfield, passed away peacefully at his home on Saturday, June 27, 2026. He was born on March 31, 1966, in Neenah, Wis.

Michael most recently worked for Meijer. He had a passion for computers and technology and was always interested in learning something new. He enjoyed weightlifting and spent many years living in New Mexico, where he appreciated the warmth and sunshine

before eventually making his home in Indiana. In recent years, he began learning to play the organ, which quickly became one of his most treasured possessions. He was also the proud owner of two beloved cockatiels, Rocky and Bruno, who brought him much joy and companionship. Whether he was soaking up the sunshine, lifting weights, learning something new, playing the organ, or spending time with those he loved, Mike found joy in life's simple moments.

To his niece, Mike was someone she could always talk to. He was the epitome of a godfather. Always offering guidance, sharing his perspective, and allowing room for mistakes, growth, and learning. When she was little, she was convinced he had bowling balls hidden in his arms because of how incredibly strong he was from weightlifting. As she grew older, she realized that while his physical strength was impressive, it was his gentle heart that left the greatest impression. He was always willing to listen, offer encouragement, and make those around him feel seen, understood, and valued. His quiet support, kindness, and unwavering presence are gifts she will carry with her forever.

Michael is survived by his mother, Mary Fritsch; his brothers, Robert Fritsch and Jeffrey (Joell) Fritsch; his partner of 26 years, Dan Watters; his nieces, Alairyse (Noah) Miller, Chelsea (Joe) Nilsdonk, and Nicole (Kent) Schaefer; and several great-nieces and great-nephews.

He was preceded in death by his father, Gerald Fritsch.

Service schedule: 9 to 11 a.m. for a visitation and 11 a.m. to be the start of the service (all Central Time) on Tuesday, July 14 at St. Mary's Catholic Church, 528 2nd St., Menasha, Wis.

Condolences may be shared with the family at randallroberts.com.

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Tennis

MID-TAC tradition continues at Carmel Racquet Club

By **RICHIE HALL**
sports@readthereporter.com

CARMEL – A nearly 40-year tradition continued this past weekend at the Carmel Racquet Club.

The annual MID-TAC tennis tournament took place from July 2 to July 5. Close to 200 players competed in the tournament, with CRC hosting the senior division, for those players 55 and over.

The MID-TAC tournament celebrated its 103rd year in 2026 and has been hosted by the Capitol City Tennis Club in Indianapolis since 1979. MID-TAC is the Midwestern section of the American Tennis Association, a historically African American tennis organization.

Many of MID-TAC's senior players have been participating in the tournament for decades. Rita Patterson, who serves as the MID-TAC treasurer, said she's been coming to the event since 1984.

"And I've always been playing," she said. "This is my first year not playing."

While the seniors played at Carmel, the junior and adult players were competing at Riverside Park's Marion I. Rice Tennis Courts. Juniors play up to age 18, while the senior categories begin at age 50.

The matches are competitive – Patterson said players don't come to the tournament unless they are competitive – there is a social aspect to the tournament that Patterson said is "very important. That's how you meet people."



(ABOVE) The annual MID-TAC tournament took place this past weekend, with Carmel Racquet Club hosting the seniors division of the tournament, as it has for nearly 40 years. Pictured: Rita Patterson (Louisville), Ruth Grissom (Indianapolis) and Shirley Roach (Chicago). (BELOW) Riley Washington warms up before a match.

Reporter photos by Richie Hall

Players come from across the Midwest, such as Chicago, Louisville, Cleveland and Columbus, Ohio. Many of those players have been attending the tournament for decades.

Laurice Smith of Memphis, Tenn., took a minute to speak to The Reporter in between matches on Friday, July 3. Smith said she has been playing in the tournament "for at least 20 years" and enjoys the camaraderie and friendships that develop

See MID... Page 16



Boys Golf

Marucci in the hunt at PGA Indiana Open

The REPORTER

Noblesville's Tyler Marucci is keeping pace with the pros at the PGA Indiana Open, which began Monday at Brickyard Crossing Golf Club in Speedway.

Marucci is a recent Noblesville graduate and playing as an amateur at the Open. After the first round of play, Marucci is part of a four-way tie for second place with a score of three under par 69. Marucci made five birdies during his Monday round. Javan Johnson of Franklin is the current leader

with six under 66.

Two more players with Hamilton County ties are in the top 10 as part of a large tie for sixth place. Vince Drahman, a Noblesville graduate now in Fortville, scored two under par 70. Drahman made an eagle on the 15th hole in addition to five birdies.

Ivan Foster, representing the Bridgewater Club, also scored 70 for his first round. Foster made six birdies.

The second round of play takes place today. There will be two waves of play,

with the first group teeing off between 8 and 9:48 a.m. The second wave tees off between 1 and 2:48 p.m.

T2. Tyler Marucci, Noblesville 69, T6. Ivan Foster, Bridgewater 70; Vince Drahman, Fortville 70, T16. Andy Warnings, Fishers; Jake Cesare, Westfield 71; Chase Berry, McCordsville 71, T25. Lane Zedrick, Fishers 72, T38. Connor McNeely, Noblesville 73; Dane Starnes, Fishers 73, T50. Drew Shafer, Carmel 74; Eric Steger, Noblesville 74; Matthew Shull, Westfield 74, T66. Joseph Armfield, Carmel 75; Sam Firebaugh, Carmel

75; Tyler White, Westfield 75; Ronnie Russell, Noblesville 75, T84. Brian Harris, Carmel 76, T93. Konnor Kimmel, Carmel 77; Garrett James, Arcadia 77; Lucas Beck, Carmel 77, T108. Lance Decker, Noblesville 78; Brandon Snell, Chatham Hills 78; Jesse Hughes, Topgolf Fishers 78, T116. Harley Kruschwitz, Noblesville 79; Alec Cesare, Westfield 79, T127. Brad Mays, Noblesville 80, T131. Dylan Garland, Westfield 81, T136. Dylan Cousins, Fishers 82, T141. Tommy Klinker, Fishers 83, T151. Evan Steger, Noblesville 85.

Boys Golf



Photo provided
Noblesville's Luke Decker finished third in the Boys 16 division at the Buffy & Alice Mayerstein Age Group Championship last week.

County claims three Age Group State champions

The REPORTER

Three Hamilton County golfers were among the winners in their division at the Buffy & Alice Mayerstein Age Group Championship, which took place last Wednesday and Thursday, July 1 and 2, at Swan Lake Resort in Plymouth.

Fishers' Gavin Davis was the winner of the Boys 14 group, scoring a seven under par 137. Davis made an eagle on the second day along with 10 birdies. Carmel's Max Huffman tied for second with 145, draining seven birdies.

Austin Carter led a 1-2 Carmel finish in the Boys 13 group. Carter totaled 153 with three birdies for the tournament. Luke Moore was second with 156 and one birdie.

Fishers' Carsen Fegan was the Boys 12 champion, totaling 145. Fegan made six birdies in his round.

There were several third-place finishers from the county. Westfield's Jude Kaufman and Bubba Chapman tied for third in the Boys 17 group, while Noblesville's Luke Decker tied for third in the Boys 16 division. Another Noblesville golfer, MacKenzie DeMarco, placed third in Boys 12.

Carmel's Allie Thompson placed second in the Girls 17 group, scoring 156

and making one birdie. Noblesville's Lauren Turpin took second in Girls 16, collecting nine birdies along the way.

Fishers' Mallory Jaske was the Girls 15 runner-up, scoring 156 with two birdies. Westfield's Addison Simpson finished second in Girls 12 with 188.

Westfield's Sophie Raines placed third in the Girls 17 group with 150.

A complete list of area finishers now follows.

Boys 18: 11. Kaiden Sullivan, Fishers 81-82=163.

Boys 17: T3. Jude Kaufman, Westfield 71-77=148;

Bubba Chapman, Westfield 74-74=148, 16. Brady McIlvenna, Carmel 78-79=157, T17. Brody Motz, Noblesville 83-75=158;

Keaton Chapman, Westfield 81-77=158; Jack Armstrong, Carmel 76-82=158, T23. Ben Wilson, Carmel 81-79=160;

Carson McCulloch, Carmel 80-80=160, T25. Colby Crandall, Westfield 81-80=161; Sean Hess, Westfield 80-81=161;

Blake Huffman, Carmel 80-81=161, T30. Mason Umthum, Noblesville 86-83=169; Blake Weimer, Noblesville 86-83=169, 33. Hudson McKamie, Noblesville 87-84=171.

Boys 16: T3. Luke Decker, Noblesville 73-73=146,

14. Dalen Rippy, Noblesville 76-78=154, 21. Nolan Knight,

See Age... Page 16

Briggs added to All-State tennis team

Fishers tennis player Allison Briggs has been added to the Indiana High School Tennis Association's All-State team.

Briggs is now a member of the Second Team All-State.

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MID

over the years, as well as the chance to “come to a different part of the country, other than where you live.”

“You meet a lot of nice people that I’ve known for 10, 15, 20 years,” said Smith. “And I love tennis, so it’s just good to come and play different people from other states.”

In addition to tennis and friendships, MID-TAC helps provide for its junior players with scholarships. Patterson said the scholarships are in a “donation type of setup.”

“A lot of times people will send in donations from member clubs,” said Patterson. “We have 19 member clubs, and those member clubs play dues. The amount of dues is \$100, and that dues money is split up between the administration of the junior scholarships. We have a form we send out so that they can choose how they want their donations used. And we stay close to that, and I create reports that

show exactly what we use, what amounts we use for what portion.”

There’s only one simple requirement for receiving the money.

“If you’re one of the scholarship winners, the only requirement is you come back the following year to get your money,” said Patterson.

“I belong to Newburgh Tennis Association in Louisville,” said Patterson. “We have a clinic for adults and children and we push them to learn the game, and we also let them know there’s scholarship money out there.

The advice to young players is also simple. “Stay focused and we will help you.”

“We give them the racquets, we train them and just push them out there and push them to be the best they can be, and it gives them a lot of confidence,” said Patterson. “A lot of them have really succeeded.”

Men’s Basketball

Pacers rookie Braden Smith excited to play in Pacers uniform for the first time

By CHARLES HUIRAS
WISH-TV | wishtv.com

New Pacers second-round draft selection and former Purdue standout Braden Smith is set to play in a Pacers uniform for the first time when the NBA Summer League begins next week.

The Westfield High School grad was selected 38th overall in last week’s NBA Draft, and he couldn’t be more excited to begin his NBA career right in his home city.

“It was awesome,” Smith said. “Just being home around my family, my friends. Obviously, I went to college an hour away from here so being close to that. I have a younger brother, being close to him and being able to help him out in his next four years of high school, and obviously being a part of an organization

somewhere.”

Smith’s younger brother, Maddox, will be a freshman at Westfield High School this year, just a 30-minute drive away from Gainbridge Fieldhouse.

Smith just wrapped up a four-year career at Purdue, where the point guard ended as the NCAA’s all-time assists leader with 1,103.

As the 22-year-old point guard begins his first couple of weeks as an Indiana Pacer, he mentioned how the Pacers’ team culture reminded him of what the Boilermakers had during his four years there.

“I see it how Purdue is,” Smith said. “Great culture, great community, great people in the organization, and great players, so for me it’s just like I’m coming from one great organization to another one.”

Now, Smith comes into



WISH-TV photo

the NBA with a clean slate, and he knows he will need to prove himself on the court once again.

“I love it, and I think that’s the best thing for me right now is to be able to get that new switch,” Smith said. “You start back at ground zero, and you’ve got to build your way up. That’s where I’ve succeeded in my high school days and also my college days, is that well, okay, nobody thinks

you can come in here and make an impact. For me, that’s where I strive.”

Smith and the rest of the Pacers Summer League roster will compete in their first Summer League game against the Cavaliers on Friday, July 10.

This story was originally published by WISH-TV at wishtv.com/sports/pacers-rookie-braden-smith-excited-to-play-in-pacers-uniform-for-the-first-time.

AGE

from Page 15

McCordsville 77-83=160, 23. Grayson Cole, Fishers 83-84=167, 24. Paul Zadny, Carmel 85-83=168, 26. Jack Burton, Carmel 90-84=174, 27. J.C. Hart, Westfield 87-88=175.

Boys 15: T4. Vaughn Twilla, Noblesville 77-76=153, T8. Cooper Howard, Carmel 80-77=157, T14. Aleksander Nowacki, Fishers 81-78=159, T16. Malachi Cole, Carmel 83-80=163, 23. Henry Pasko, Carmel 89-98=187.

Boys 14: 1. Gavin Davis, Fishers 67-70=137, T2. Max Huffman, Carmel 70-75=145, 4. Graham DeMarco, Noblesville 73-74=147, 5. Lucas Graessle, Fishers 74-74=148, 5. Sawyer Houser, Westfield 78-74=152, 13. Gabriel Brown, Fishers 86-91=177.

Boys 13: 1. Austin Carter, Carmel 75-78=153, 2. Luke Moore, Carmel 76-80=156, 6. Vidyut Anand, Carmel 82-83=165, 8. Reid Lassiter, Noblesville 89-80=169.

Boys 12: 1. Carsen Fegan, Fishers 73-72=145, 3. Mack-

enzie DeMarco, Noblesville 77-81=158, 6. Carson Umthum, Noblesville 84-92=176.

Girls 18: 5. Ali Scott, Carmel 72-81=153.

Girls 17: 2. Allie Thompson, Carmel 78-78=156, 4. Taylor Morrison, Atlanta 80-80=160, T7. Maddie Headlee, Carmel 84-82=166.

Girls 16: 2. Lauren Turpin, Noblesville 77-72=149, 3. Sophie Raines, Westfield 73-77=150, T6. Mallorie Monico, Carmel 82-77=159; Kendall Manion, Fishers 75-84=159, 10. Keelin Werkley, Noblesville 84-83=167.

Girls 15: T2. Mallory Jaske, Fishers 75-81=156, 6. Madison Yeoman, McCordsville 81-84=165, 10. Chloe Paul, Westfield 93-87=180.

Girls 14: T3. Qianyu Liu, Carmel 90-90=180, 6. Elizabeth Ashburn, Carmel 101-98=199.

Girls 13: 5. Kennedy Howard, Carmel 105-95=200.

Girls 12: 2. Addison Simpson, Westfield 98-90=188.

Motorsports

Danner delivers sweet redemption with BC39 victory

Submitted by IMS

Briggs Danner provided redemption for himself and his team Wednesday, July 1 with a drive to victory in the BC39 Presented by Avanti Windows & Doors.

Danner, from Allentown, Pa., earned his first career USAC NOS Energy Drink Midget National Championship victory at The Dirt Track at Indianapolis Motor Speedway in one of the most prestigious short-track races in the country. He earned \$20,039 for the victory in the No. 40x Chase McDermand Racing car in the 39-lap race, which continues to honor late USAC champion and three-time Indianapolis 500 starter Bryan Clauson.

“Between last night and tonight, we were good every time we hit the track,” Danner said. “There’s no feeling like this right now.

I don’t even know what to say right now.”

Kevin Thomas Jr., the winner of the 30-lap Stoops Star Spangled Showdown Tuesday at IMS, finished second in the No. 14 4 Kings Racing entry. Jacob Denney was third in the No. 67 Keith Kunz-Curb-Agajanian Motorsports car.

Two-time reigning BC39 winner Cannon McIntosh fell short in his bid for a three-peat, finishing fourth in the No. 71K Keith Kunz-Curb-Agajanian Motorsports entry. Kale Drake rounded out the top five in the No. 4 RMS Racing machine.

The victory erased a tough night for Danner and the McDermand team Tuesday in the 30-lap feature. Danner was hit from behind by teammate Drake Edwards on Lap 6 and struggled to finish 13th, also hurt by a deflating tire late in that race.

Edwards went on to win the race for the McDermand team but was disqualified after a technical violation was discovered in his engine in post-race inspection. Thomas, who crossed the line in second, was awarded the victory.

“We were really good last night,” Danner said. “There’s no better place to be in Victory Lane. This crowd, this track inside IMS, there’s nothing like this. This is really cool, and it will take a little bit to set in.”

Said team owner Chase McDermand about the rebound from the disqualifi-



Photo provided by IMS

cation: “We had our little moment when we were all kind of just moping around. Got everybody together in the lounge of the trailer, building everybody right back up. After that point, we all knew we had the cars to do it.”

Pole sitter Danner lost the lead to Drake immediately at the drop of the green flag in the BC39 feature. Danner immediately decided to run a higher line on the dirt oval, a strategy he maintained for nearly the entire race.

Danner made a rare low move to dip under Drake for the lead exiting Turn 4 on Lap 9 before a three-car tangle unfurled the first caution flag of the night on Lap 10.

On the restart, McIntosh passed Drake for second place and loomed behind Danner. Then Danner and McIntosh produced 10 consecutive laps of magic, swapping the lead nearly every trip around the oval. The scintillating duel also included Danner keeping the lead despite bouncing off the Turn 4 wall on Lap 16, as repeated sliding through Turn 4 created a banked

cushion of dirt that caught some drivers off guard.

“It’s so tough, and it’s so slick, too,” Danner said of the changing conditions in Turn 4. “When it’s fluffy like that, it just kind of catches you instead of letting you drive off of it or just bounce off of it.”

The fight for the lead became a three-car joust when Thomas, who faithfully stuck to the low line for the entire feature, passed both Danner and McIntosh for the lead on Lap 24.

But Danner regained the lead on the next lap running the high line and began to pull away by a few car lengths. The final caution period on Lap 30 bunched the field, but Danner rocketed away on the final restart.

“Thankfully, I didn’t have a rearview mirror because I’m sure it was getting pretty busy, but I just had to try to protect,” Danner said. About the only adjustment Danner made in the closing laps was to drop his line slightly lower to avoid the bumps and the berm forming in Turn 4, creating a smooth ride to Victory Lane.



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